Claims 1-4 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-4 are currently amended. Corrected drawing sheets, replacing

drawing pages 1 and 2 which contain Figs. 1 and 2, are attached.

The Examiner objected to the drawings, indicating that reference character 15

was not mentioned in the description. The Applicant respectfully traverses the

objection and directs the Examiner's attention to the reference on page 7, line 6.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings, indicating Figs. 1 and 2 should

be indicated as "Prior Art". The Applicant appends replacement drawing pages in

response hereto.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second

paragraph, as indefinite. Applicant has amended claim 1-4 to indicate that the

"launcher frame" is, in fact, the "box-like launcher frame".

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as

anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,144, 786 to Pacione. In making his rejection, the

Examiner has provided a section indicating his "interpretation" of the claims. The

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and respectfully requests that it be

withdrawn in light of the amendments to the claims and the arguments set forth

herein.

The Examiner has interpreted the preamble of claim 1 as reciting only one

positive limitation, the term "apparatus". However, it is clear from the claims and the

specification that the apparatus claimed is limited to a very specialized art, rocket

launchers. There is no teaching or suggestion in the reference cited by the

Examiner that the art therein could in any way be applied to the present application's

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1 and 2. These

sheets replace the original sheets containing those same figures and include the

legend "PRIOR ART". Fig. 3 is unchanged but is included for drawing uniformity

Attachments:

Replacement Sheets

Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

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Amdt. Dated 16 December 2004

Reply to Office Action of 21 September 2004

utility. Given the Examiner's inclination to read the preamble of the claim in such a

manner, the Applicant has amended the preamble of claim 1 to assist the Examiner's

interpretation to be limited to the desired art. Additionally, claims 2-4 have been

amended as a result to avoid problems with antecedent basis given the changes in

claim 1.

The Applicant has attempted to be responsive to all the Examiner's

statements and rejections. However, should the Examiner have any further

comments or suggestions, the undersigned would appreciate a telephone call in

order to discuss any outstanding issues and to expedite placement of the application

into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Becker, Reg. 26,255

Attorney for Applicant(s)

ROBERT W. BECKER & ASSOCIATES

707 Highway 66 East, Suite B

Tijeras, New Mexico 87059

Telephone:

505 286 3511

Telefax:

505 286 3524

RWB:KCF:mac

Attachments



